

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSION MEETING
OF THE
ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

October 23, 2014

A meeting of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education was held Thursday, October 23, 2014 in the offices of the Commission, 800 E. Dimond Blvd., Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska.

CONVENE

Chair Jim Johnsen called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

ATTENDEES

Commission members present for all or portions of the meeting were Chair Jim Johnsen, Vice Chair Randy Weaver, Joey Crum, Rebecca Huggins, Pat Jacobson, Sue Linford, Jim Merriner and Tammie Wilson.

Commission members absent: Jerry Covey, Ray DePriest, Jo Heckman, and Mike Woods.

Commission staff present for all or portions of the meeting were Diane Barrans, Executive Director; Stephanie Butler, Director of Program Operations; Charlene Morrison, Chief Finance Officer; Worth Barthel, Human Resource Officer; Kerry Thomas, Internal Auditor, ANSWERS Project Manager; Rebekah Matrosova, Director of Outreach and Early Awareness; Mary Ellen Beardsley, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Law; Joann Rieselbach, School Relations Manager; Kierke Kussart, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator; CJ Allison, Community Partnership Manager; Greg Monrad, Program Manager, Alaska College and Career Advising Corps; Misty Klodt, Transitions and Completion Supervisor; and Rochelle Rogers, Executive Assistant/Commission Secretary.

Others Present: Stephanie Nichols, Director, Seattle University School of Law; Eric Ash, Executive Director, Wayland Baptist University; Tracy Stewart, Academic Dean, Alaska Pacific University; Carmen Franchino, Director of Operations, Amundsen Educational Center; Roger Holl, CEO and Chief Administrator, Amundsen Educational Center; Alison Roope, Compliance Officer, Charter College; Larry Capps, President, Charter College.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Huggins moved to adopt the agenda of the October 23, 2014 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Merriner. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

ETHICS DISCLOSURE RELATIVE TO ADOPTED AGENDA

No ethics disclosures were offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Crum moved to adopt the minutes of the July 22, 2014 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Huggins. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

INSTITUTIONAL STANDARDS & EVALUATION

Kierke Kussart, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator, reported on compliance activities. Ms. Kussart highlighted Alaska's participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). ACPE is the SARA portal agency for Alaska, meaning Alaska institutions that wish to participate in SARA must apply to ACPE. The advantage to institutions approved to participate in SARA is they may offer distance education to residents in other SARA states without also going through each individual state's authorization process. Three Alaska institutions have applied and been approved as SARA participants: the University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Alaska Southeast and Charter College.

Initial Authorization

Seattle University School of Law – Commissioner Jacobson moved to approve a two-year initial authorization of the Seattle University School of Law through October 31, 2016, and approval of alternate refund policy contingent upon the acquiescence of the American Bar Association and approval of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Merriner. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

Wayland Baptist University – Commissioner Wilson moved to approve a two-year initial authorization of Wayland Baptist University through October 31, 2016, and approval of alternate refund policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Merriner. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

Program Amendment

Alaska Pacific University - Commissioner Merriner moved to approve Alaska Pacific University's Yoga Teacher Training certificate through January 31, 2016, which is commensurate with the current period of authorization. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crum. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

Amundsen Educational Center - Commissioner Crum moved to approve Roger Holl, J.D., as Amundsen Educational Center's new CEO and chief administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Huggins. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

Charter College - Commissioner Linford moved to approve Charter College's Online Certificate in Medical Office Administrative Assistant, contingent upon the approval of the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, through January 31, 2015, which is commensurate with the current period of authorization. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Merriner. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Barrans referenced her written report and reminded members to contact her directly if they have questions or thoughts on the meeting agenda or content. Ms. Barrans works in close collaboration with the Chair to ensure meetings are meaningful to members relative to their work and constituencies.

Members who have served on the Commission for several years are aware the agency has been presented, as an organization, with significant opportunities and challenges. These have come in the form of initiatives representing powerful potential for positive outcomes in Alaska and include ventures such as launching the statewide Alaska Performance Scholarship, the ANSWERS project, and the statewide Access and Completion Network. These diverse, mission-centered initiatives are dependent on strong collaborative partnerships with other Alaska stakeholders. Partnerships are beneficial to maximize efficient and effective use of Alaska's public resources; even more so now given the fiscal context in Alaska's near term. Ms. Barrans is hopeful ACPE's active cultivation of partnerships is effective in increasing the ability to work well with the Department of Education & Early Development, Department of Labor & Workforce Development, University of Alaska, the business community and student and parent organizations. The challenges ACPE is facing include the topics to be covered in the Lumina Foundation-funded HCM Strategists presentation. They include defining and striving for college and career readiness in Alaska, aligning standards and expectations across sectors of our education system, and increasing public awareness and understanding around these topics. She believes the Commission can have a great effect on positively impacting postsecondary access and completions through ANSWERS by assessing the workforce and economic feedback of all the collective efforts. Many other states are similarly engaged in the creation of statewide longitudinal data systems; some are further ahead, and some not as far progressed as Alaska. While Alaska is not known

as a “joiner state” when it comes to national initiatives, there are lessons to be learned by the work going on across the nation – even if just sorting out the successful strategies from those that are less so. Ms. Barrans noted in her role with the Commission she has always believed it is incumbent upon her to identify information and potential resources to share with the membership, staff, programs and services, and Alaskans. To that end Ms. Barrans was intrigued to learn of the expansion of the Lumina-funded Strategy Labs. She is excited about the potential opportunity to access the tools provided.

LUMINA FOUNDATION STRATEGY LABS

Jimmy Clark, Kim Hunter-Reed and Malia Sieve, Senior Associates of HCM Strategists, as policy leads and subject matter experts on educational attainment and guided pathways, presented Strategy Labs to the group. Strategy Labs are an open platform for research and data for leaders and influencers in all fifty states. Strategy Labs are managed by HCM Strategists and funded through the Lumina Foundation. All efforts are intended to advance the Lumina Foundation’s State Policy Agenda, Goal 2025; to increase the proportion of Americans with high-quality degrees, certificates and other credentials to 60% by the year 2025. The detailed policy agenda is not intended as a checklist, but rather the identification of evidence-based policies and practices proven effective in various states.

The agenda contains twenty policies and practices grouped into three core elements: to improve student outcomes, align investments with student needs, and to create smarter pathways for students. The agenda is intended to be a student-centered and focused state policy agenda. The discussion will focus on seven of the policies; data-driven decision making, aligning K-12 and postsecondary education, and adopting guided pathways. The Lumina Foundation makes Strategy Labs’ resources available through a variety of means including through nonpartisan evidence-based policy expertise. Strategy Labs provide convening, and facilitation opportunities including hosting site visits and workshops. Strategy Labs can provide executive support through evidence-based presentations. This is often provided to legislators, legislative staff, commissioners and governor’s offices. The Strategy Labs website platform attempts to expose all individuals to perspectives at the state and national level.

Lumina’s policy agenda aims to increase student outcomes through setting ambitious goals as well as establishing metrics and a dashboard. These are the two primary pieces to drive data-driven decision making. Data-driven decision making is a cyclical, iterative process that requires a common understanding of the end goal. Setting an attainment goal ensures your state and the nation as a whole are meeting the needs of the future workforce. Setting a state-level goal requires examining workforce needs – a process that involves K12, higher education and workforce to set a measurable and challenging goal. An important aspect is to recognize the attainment gaps of underrepresented populations. Twenty-three states have set attainment goals, most of which are solidified or institutionalized in statute or a statewide plan for higher education. HCM Strategists recognized the work involved in the development of the Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (the Network). The Network established

a statewide goal, but now must identify metrics to monitor progress. ANSWERS will be an important tool in tracking process toward a statewide goal.

Postsecondary system dashboards are available for translating data and information to action. Dashboards track key performance indicators to guide decision making, implementation and programmatic changes. The collection of metrics and information should be communicated in a way that the public can understand the direction needed to progress to the statewide goal.

K-12 assessments and readiness standards are policies that can affect change on the student level. K-12 readiness is important in the transition from high school to higher education. The challenges in postsecondary student success include high cost of education, not obtaining a timely degree, and excess credit hours. SAT and ACT data show only 40% of Alaskan high school graduates meet the (readiness) benchmark. Complete College America studies show 50% of students (nationally) pursuing two-year degrees and 20% of students pursuing four-year degrees require some remediation in math or English, the number being higher in many states. This prompts questions of whether high school assessments are properly aligned with college assessments. Alaska is heading towards its first generation of developing and testing assessments, and it is a common understanding that collaboration is needed between high school and college educators in defining what it means to be college ready. Several states' K-12 teachers and postsecondary faculty have combined efforts to create aligned assessment standards. There are excellent resources available to aid this process including assistance through the Educational Policy Improvement Center.

Students are facing challenges navigating the college process. Consequences may include underperforming, failure to timely complete their program, and spending time and money on excess credits. Lumina Foundation wanted to find a method in which to help students in institutions successfully move forward through maximizing credit, reducing extra credits, ensure work flexibility, and provide navigation tools. This can be accomplished through a stronger K-12 pipeline, consumer-friendly data, and an appropriate navigation system for students. Lumina Foundation developed guided pathways to address student challenges. Guided pathways offer a sort of GPS for students to navigate the college experience, an informed choice so they can spend less time making selections and more time in the classroom. Some institutions are adopting meta-majors which allow students to choose a broad topic of interest without choosing a specific degree, and are offered an easy coursework plan for the first few semesters while they consider their desired degree. Providing too broad of choices can be damaging for students; default pathways allow students to accelerate through a pre-structured system. They include advising, tutoring and assistance to provide support and structure for students. Guided pathways contain an important data element to illustrate student attendance, performance, behavior, and their likelihood of finishing timely.

Degree maps provide structure for returning adults by grouping classes into morning or afternoon blocks for each meta-major. As a result, students are requiring reduced developmental courses and are graduating sooner. Students who participate in

meta-majors perform better in all predictors including GPA, retention and graduation rates. Degree maps are transformational for student success and beneficial for institutions as resources can be optimized to improve attainment.

HCM Strategists suggest utilizing Lumina Foundation's policy agenda when considering Alaska's student attainment goal. Examine the state's challenges in terms of student success and strategize how the Lumina team can help identify a successful approach to address Alaska's barriers. The Lumina Foundation is willing and ready to assist states as needed to improve student outcomes across the nation.

MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORTS

Finance: Ms. Morrison referenced her written report, first noting an update on the fiscal year 2015 operating budget. Changes include the adjustment of positions in personnel services and contractual services. The total budget and total positions did not change. As mentioned in the last meeting, the Commission does have a capital project budget of \$460,000 to replace the grant and student aid management system--a project currently underway.

An Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) board meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be conducted telephonically from the Juneau office. Ms. Morrison presented the ASLC financial reports for informational purposes, noting board members would review the reports at the upcoming meeting. Included in the reports are a memorandum to board members, Management's Discussion and Analysis, Expenditure of Federal Awards Report, and Engagement Letter to the Board. The Corporation reported a \$3 million net income. The Corporation will have no problem meeting loan demand for the current academic year, and Ms. Morrison anticipates being able to meet demand for the next academic year without incurring additional funding.

As previously discussed, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does have the Corporation's revenue tax exempt bonds under examination. There is no update on the examination; the Corporation continues to await written documentation from the IRS supporting their concern of noncompliance issues.

Program Operations: Ms. Butler presented her written report, noting the division has been busy implementing changes occurring in the upcoming program year while maintaining regular work for the existing unchanged programs. Staff is hugely enthusiastic about the changes and opportunity to expand their knowledge base and developing a significant diversity of skills from loans to grants, scholarships, outreach and other service areas.

The division is increasingly busy with ANSWERS activities. Members may recall the project is designed as a series of deliverables occurring over a timeline; the challenge being deliverables two, three, four and five begin before deliverable one is

completed. Staff is undertaking expanded roles relative to the ANSWERS project, especially the Research & Analysis and Quality Assurance units.

Loan originations continue to decline. Staff is hoping to see the decline lessen as the agency engages in increased marketing, including direct-to-consumer information regarding the benefits of ACPE's available programs. Interest rates on state loans are currently better than federal PLUS rates, and Ms. Butler is pleased that staff is engaging in increased conversation with various financial aid staff around the state to assist them in developing verbiage to discuss the benefits of state loans for students. Ms. Butler noted \$5.5 million was awarded to the Alaska Education Grant program, which is the full amount available for the program year. The Alaska Performance Scholarship awarded approximately \$10 million of the \$11 million available, so it is 90% expended. Based on the additional funds available the application deadline has been extended and staff is engaging in outreach to potentially eligible students to remind them of program availability. Because her report was prepared prior to Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) distribution a zero is shown under PFD payments, however; there were 2,400 borrowers with PFD garnishments in the amount of \$4.4 million.

Staff in Outreach & Early Awareness and Program Operations have been closely monitoring the increase in access to ACPE's website by mobile devices. Staff will be making modifications to the site to accommodate mobile devices.

Outreach & Early Awareness: Ms. Matrosova provided highlights from her written report. The final annual increment of the federal College Access and Challenge Grant (CACG) was received with an award of just under \$1.4 million. It is expected a significant portion of the funding will carry over into the next fiscal year; therefore the Outreach division is not looking to make significant changes until fiscal year 2017. However, the receipt of the final grant increment makes staff increasingly mindful of sustainability efforts.

The Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (the Network) is one of the two primary CACG-funded initiatives. Work around the Network is intensifying with staff engaging in several committees. Ms. Matrosova commended Community Partnership Manager CJ Allison's work as the primary staff support to the cross-sector group aiding in the development of the Network and developing the first draft of a strategic plan. The group is in the first stages of forming a formal leadership structure with an interim decision-making body.

The second major initiative funded by CACG is the Alaska College and Career Advising Corps (ACAC). Greg Monrad, ACAC Program Manager, has been leading a sustainability workgroup to develop a proposed program model that outlines possible partnerships to sustain the program at varying increments so no one partner should contribute more than could reasonably be achieved. The model has drawn a positive response from the national College Advising Corps, a potential funding partner. Staff began initial conversations with the Chugiak School District last January about a possible grant opportunity, and was notified this quarter the grant application was successful.

ACPE now participates in a consortium that includes the Chugiak School District as well as four partner districts. A Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Career and Technical Education (CTE) grant will provide STEM-specific advising to four cohorts of twenty-five students from five rural districts. The CTE grant will also fund two new College/Career Guide positions to provide primarily distance-delivered services to all the districts. This opportunity will test the new sustainability model, provide additional funding, and hopefully offer valuable information relating to the growth and expansion of the model.

Outreach has been transitioning from strategic planning to a focus on developing priority outcomes around impacts to efficiency. Results of an annual community outreach review showed more individuals were reached despite an overall reduction in travel expenditures. Increased use of distance delivery and maximum travel efficiencies increased the number of individuals reached. A higher number of students were also reached through the ACAC program this quarter and through the Success Center. Efficiencies will continue to be a focus for the upcoming quarter.

ANSWERS/Internal Audit: Ms. Thomas reported the majority of her time has been focused on ANSWERS project management activities, and will continue through the duration of the grant in mid-2015. After grant funding is exhausted she will transition to her traditional role as Internal Auditor to the Commission while supporting the ANSWERS program staff as needed through the implementation process. The first item she highlighted was the ANSWERS video that was developed and posted on ACPE's public website. The State of Virginia created a statewide longitudinal data system video specific to Virginia. Through the collaboration aspect of the grant, ACPE was able to benefit from the effort and customize it for Alaska. The video portrays a very high level description of ANSWERS.

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the ANSWERS grant funding agency, visited Alaska earlier in the summer. NCES had positive comments regarding Alaska's focus on stakeholder engagement, governance structure, focus on sustainability, and the strong, positive relationships among partner organizations and executives. NCES also recognized continued improvement areas related to long-term sustainability and suggested continuing to focus on demonstrating the value of ANSWERS at every opportunity. The public concern around such tools is related to security and confidentiality, so staff should focus on transparency in the process. There is guidance from the United States Department of Education around best practices, which staff will draw upon when implementing ANSWERS.

ANSWERS staff is preparing to transition from the grant project to program implementation. Part of this transition is recruiting for an ANSWERS Program Director. Ms. Thomas reported she is in the second phase of interviews, having just completed initial interviews. Finalist candidates will be forwarded to a multi-agency team for evaluation, and hopefully a director will be selected. A Project Analyst was just hired, and recruitment is still underway for a Program Data Analyst. The Program Data Analyst

position has proven challenging to fill, and Ms. Thomas recently engaged with a recruiting firm to identify additional candidates.

ANSWERS staff have been collaborating with the Arkansas Research Center (ARC) who are experts in data visualization. ARC has been assisting the ANSWERS project team to visualize data and information products derived from ANSWERS. The relationship has been informative and beneficial.

Human Resources: Mr. Barthel presented his written report. He announced the new evaluation template has been successful. Constructive feedback has included the fact that rating employees separately for ACPE Values and various rating areas have been potentially duplicative. A future draft of the evaluation could potentially weave the values into specific rating areas. The overall process has been positive and the evaluation is considered a living document.

The senior management team has been engaged in succession planning. The team will participate in a round table discussion of how to use the template nine boxes to ensure a similar understanding of the evaluation tool. Mr. Barthel is drafting a standardized interview for managers to use with their employees to ascertain aspiration and goals. Initially the interview process was going to be exclusively for high-potential employees, however; since ACPE is such a small organization, managers felt the process would offer a better return on investment if it was inclusive of all staff. A separate succession plan will be established for Executive Director Diane Barrans. The plan will offer a well scripted process in the event Ms. Barrans leaves the organization.

Wellness has become a popular topic in the organization. The Juneau office hosts an excellent WeightWatchers at Work group. Because Anchorage only has twenty employees it is unable to host a group onsite, but members may take advantage of the offsite meetings available.

Mr. Barthel has been working closely with Ms. Butler and Ms. Thomas on the ANSWERS management office relating to both personnel and facilities. Administrative Services staff has been gearing up for IRIS implementation, a statewide project that will replace the current state accounting system as well as automating procurement functions. Staff is optimistic it will be implemented by July 1, 2015. IRIS should create a smooth, streamlined electric process for procurement.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No public testimony was offered.

REGULATIONS

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve for adoption changes to regulations Title 20, Chapters 15, 16 and 17 regarding state and federal financial aid programs and postsecondary education institutions, including renaming the Alaska Education

Grant, providing for changes to the Alaska Education Grant, and providing for changes to the Alaska Supplemental Education Loan and Family Education Loan requirements pursuant to Chapter 89 SLA 14; revising institutional authorization procedures; updating references; and to make general housekeeping and conforming changes (20 AAC 15.195; 15.537; 15.705; 15.735; 15.745; 15.795; 15.910; 15.915; 15.935; 15.940; 15.945; 15.970; 15.988; 16.005; 16.010; 16.015; 16.020; 16.021; 16.030; 16.034; 16.037; 16.040; 16.050; 16.235; 16.900; 17.015; 17.045; 17.145; 17.225; 17.230; and 17.245). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crum. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Alaska Student Loan Corporation – Commissioner Weaver reminded members of the upcoming ASLC meeting on November 5, 2014. The purpose of the meeting will be to review financial statements, take action on a dividend to the state and approve regulations for adoption. There are two new board representatives: Don Habeger, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Administration; and Jared Kosin, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Revenue.

UA Board of Regents – Commissioner Jacobson reported a UA Board of Regents meeting was held in Juneau September 18-19, 2014. The group approved various Regent policy updates such as the Equal Opportunity Employment Program, Individuals with Disabilities, and Additional Leave and Holiday Benefits Provisions. Regents approved a list of degree recipients for the summer and fall of 2013 and spring of 2014. A 4% tuition rate increase for fiscal year 2016 failed to pass. A revision of the fiscal year 2015 Natural Resources Fund budget included \$60,000 for the University of Alaska (UA) Press and directs the president to fund an additional \$60,000 from internal sources. Revisions to the UA Scholars Program will take effect in the fall of 2015 including increased minimum credit hours and increased award amounts. Regents approved an undergraduate certificate in Medical Assisting at the University of Alaska Southeast, a post-baccalaureate certificate in Speech Language Pathology at the University of Alaska Anchorage, and approved various property disposals and acquisitions in a project change request including \$1,400,000 toward repurposing for Veterinary Medicine.

On September 29, 2014, the joint subcommittee of the State School Board and Board of Regents held their first videoconference meeting. Subjects discussed included the need for high school and college entry requirement alignments, the university's common general education courses for math and reading, paraprofessional programs, teacher loan forgiveness and teacher mentoring. Teacher retention and quality issues were brought to attention by Vice President Dana Thomas. A shortage of teachers is being experienced nationwide. The expansion of the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program will increase production of teachers within the state. The Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation is looking to make changes to testing and admission requirements for teacher education which would have a huge impact on Alaska. With requirements becoming increasingly stringent, only 13% of existing

education majors within the state would meet the 2019 requirements. Committee members are considering methods in which other states are handling the increased requirements.

Also discussed at the joint committee meeting was the importance of Alaska's Learning Network and the potential for e-learning across the state. The Deans of Education attended the meeting to discuss high school pathways to success in teacher education. The next joint committee is scheduled for early December. Commissioner Jacobson is pleased that so many groups are able to collaborate successfully to make changes during tight financial times.

State Board of Education – Commissioner Merriner reviewed results of Alaska's Education Opportunity Act, of House Bill 278. As of July 1, 2015, students will be given the opportunity to test out of and challenge courses during grades seven through ten. This will increase the districts' work load because there currently is not a statewide assessment to determine subject mastery. Each district will need to create a student assessment, determine how the course will be graded, and whether credits will be granted. The high school exit exam was repealed, however; high school students must take the SAT, ACT or WorkKeys assessment during their junior or senior year to graduate. The state will cover the cost of one test per student. Regulations are currently out for public comment on the Alaska State Board of Education's website. Regulation changes include increasing high school requirements to include three years of mathematics to align with college readiness.

Three elementary schools in Alaska earned a high performance rating on state assessments and/or national norm tests. Peterson (Kodiak), Haines, and Crawford (Eielson) Elementary Schools were rated as high performing. The Department of Education & Early Development awarded grants to two nonprofit organizations to expand Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education for underserved and underrepresented middle school students. The Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) was awarded funding and is planning to expand their academies for middle school students.

The Alaska State Performance Index was adopted two years ago as a student performance rating. As of last year 75 of 501 schools were given a five star rating. One hundred ninety-eight schools received a four star rating, 149 received three stars, and only twenty-seven received one star. Nearly 93% of Alaskan students attended a school that earned three stars or above.

Alaska Pacific University – Commissioner Linford announced Alaska Pacific University will be adding two programs; one accredited and one not. She invited members to attend the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting on October 30, 2014.

Northern Industrial Training – Commissioner Crum provided a workforce development and industry update, noting there has never been a better time to have a skilled trade in Alaska. Northern Industrial Training held an employer panel to connect

employers and students. Typically fifteen to twenty employers with current job openings will participate in the panels, however, fifty-seven respondents attended the last panel. Within one week all fifty-five students received job offers. Commissioner Crum conveyed his excitement and optimism relating to current industry engagement.

FALL 2015 MEETING DATE

Commissioner Crum moved to schedule the fall 2015 Commission meeting for Wednesday, October 21, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Wilson moved to recess the meeting and reconvene in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c). The matters to be discussed are matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential; specifically, discussion of the personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crum. There being no objection, the meeting recessed at 12:39 p.m.

Commissioner Crum moved to reconvene the meeting in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Linford. There being no objection, the meeting reconvened at 1:22 p.m.

Commissioner Merriner moved to approve a 1% salary increase for Executive Director Diane Barrans, effective the first payroll following the action. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. By roll call vote, all members voted Aye. The motion carried.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wilson moved to adjourn the fall 2014 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Linford. By roll call vote, all members present voted Aye. The motion carried. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:24 p.m.

Jim Johnsen, Chair